II. "Description of some Remains of the Gigantic Land-lizard (*Megalania prisca*, OWEN) from Australia. Part III." By Professor OWEN, C.B., F.R.S., &c. Received January 20, 1881.

(Abstract.)

In this communication the author describes additional parts of the *Megalania*, reconstructed from fossils exhumed by Mr. George Fred. Bennett, at the same locality as the subjects of Part II, and subsequently transmitted. They were found about thirty feet distant from the spot where the cranial fossils were imbedded, and are deemed by their discoverer to be parts of the skeleton of the same individual.

The recognisable restorations constitute the termination and a detached annular segment of the bony sheath, with one inclosed vertebra, of the tail. The average thickness of the sheath's substance is one inch; the coalesced portion includes three segments; and, save the last, these with the antecedent detached segment support osseous conical processes, in structure resembling the horn-cores of the cranium, but of larger dimensions. Each segment supports two pairs of such solid cones or cores. The transverse diameter of the antepenultimate segment taken across the tips of a pair of cores is eleven inches; the same diameter of the area of such annular sheath is five inches; the vertical diameter of the exterior of the sheath is five inches and a-half. These dimensions support Mr. Bennett's conclusion as to their relation to the skull; and, supposing the lizard's body originally entombed not to have undergone a dislocation affecting the two extremities now brought to light, their relative distance agrees with the length of the animal, estimated from proportions of previously described vertebræ.

Detailed descriptions, with figures, of the parts of the horn-bearing tail-armour are given, and comparisons are subsequently pursued in examples of recent and fossil *Reptilia* and *Mammalia*, provided with similar caudal armature.

Illustrations of these and of the parts of *Megalania* compared accompany the paper.